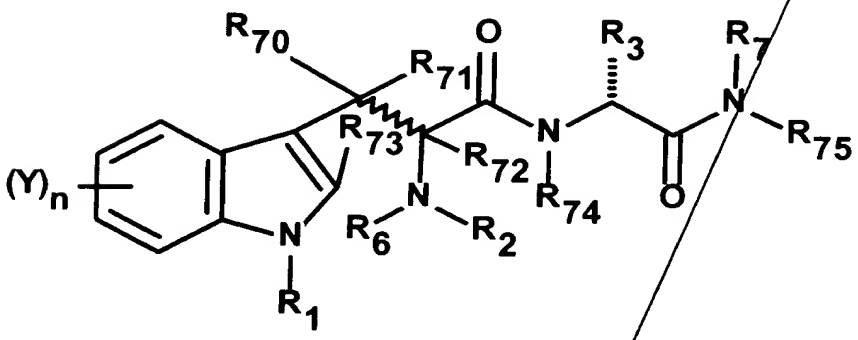
IN THE CLAIMS

1. A compound of general formula I



I

wherein:

R_1 and R_{70} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group;

R_2 represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group or is absent when R_6 represents a group -CH= as hereinafter described;

R_{73} represents a hydrogen atom or an optional substituent or is absent when R_6 represents a methylene group or a group -CH= as hereinafter described;

Y represents an optional substituent;

n represents 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R_{74} represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group;

R_7 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R_{75} represents an optionally substituted alkyl group or -Q'-C(O)X, wherein Q' is an optionally substituted $-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH=CH-$, $-CH_2C\equiv C-$ or phenylene, X is $-OR_8$, $-SR_8$, or $-NR_9R_{10}$, and R_8, R_9 and R_{10} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group; and

i) R_6 and R_{71} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group; and R_{72} represents a hydrogen atom; or

ii) R_{71} represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally susbtituted alkyl or acyl group and R_{72} represents a hydrogen atom or R_{71} and R_{72} are joined together such that a double bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which they are attached; and

R_6 represents an optionally substituted methylene group bonded to the indole moiety thereby forming a tricyclic moiety; or

R_6 represents an optionally substituted group -CH= bonded to the indole moiety thereby to form an aromatic tricyclic moiety, but excluding a single compound of general formula I where R_1 represents methyl, R_2 represents a hydrogen, R_{70} represents methyl, R_{71} represents methyl, R_{73} represents hydrogen, n represents 0, R_3 represents t-butyl, R_{74} represents hydrogen, R_6 represents methyl, R_7 represents methyl, R_{72} represents hydrogen and R_{75} represents $-CH(CH(CH_3)_2)CH.CCH_3.COOH$;

with the proviso that when

R_6, R_7, R_{70} and R_{71} are methyl;

R_2, R_{72}, R_{73} and R_{74} are hydrogen;

R_3 is t-butyl;

R_{75} is -CH(CH(CH_3)$_2$)C(H)=C(CH_3)COOH; and

n is 0, R_1 is not methyl.

2. A compound of general formula I described in claim 1, wherein

R_1 represents a hydrogen atom;

R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, or an acyl group;

R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

R_{70} and R_{71} independently represent a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group, but preferably each represent a methyl group;

R_{72}, R_{73} and R_{74} represent hydrogen atoms;

R_7 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R_6 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group, or a methylene group bonded to the indole moiety thereby to form a tricyclic moiety;

R_{75} represents a group of general formula III described above wherein R_4 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group; R_5 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; R_{76} and R_{77} represent radicals as described; and X represents a group -OR_8 or a group -NR_9R_{10}, wherein R_8, R_9 and R_{10} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

3. A compound of general formula I described in claim 1, wherein

R_1 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R_2 represents an acyl group;

R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

R_{70} and R_{71} independently represent a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group, but preferably each represent a methyl group;

R_{72}, R_{73} and R_{74} represent hydrogen atoms;

R_7 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R_6 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group, or a methylene group bonded to the indole moiety thereby to form a tricyclic moiety;

R_{75} represents a group of general formula III described above wherein R_4 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group; R_5 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; R_{76} and R_{77} represent radicals as described; and X represents a group $-OR_8$ or a group $-NR_9R_{10}$, wherein R_8, R_9 and R_{10} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

4. A compound of general formula I described in claim 1, wherein

R_1 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, or an acyl group;

R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

n represents 0;

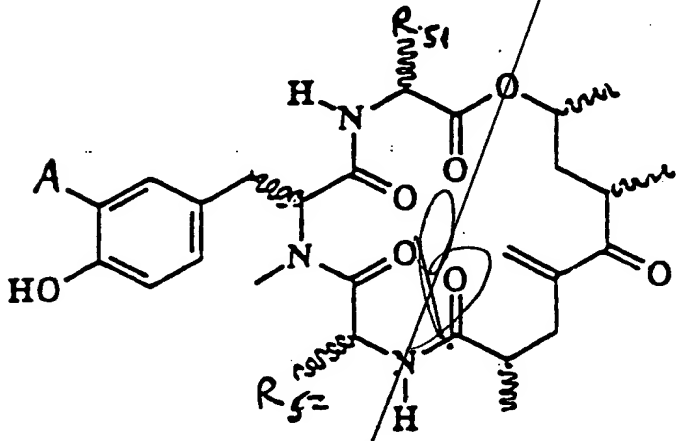
R_{70} and R_{71} independently represent a hydrogen atom or optionally substituted alkyl group, but preferably each represent a methyl group;

R_{72}, R_{73} and R_{74} represent hydrogen atoms;

R_6 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group, or a methylene group bonded to the indole moiety thereby to form a tricyclic moiety;

R_{75} represents a group of general formula III described above wherein R_4 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group; R_5 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; R_{76} and R_{77} represent radicals as described; and X represents a group $-OR_8$ or a group $-NR_9R_{10}$, wherein R_9 and R_{10} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group.

5. A geodiamolide compound of general formula



IV

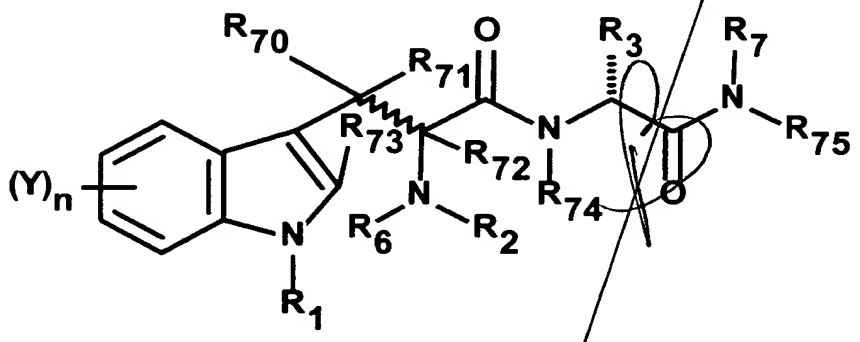
wherein:

R_{51} represents an alkyl group;

R_{52} represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; and

A represents a halogen atom.

6. A method for treating cancer in a patient in need thereof, comprising administering to said patient a cancer-treating effective amount of a compound of general formula I



I

wherein:

R_1 and R_{70} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group;

R_2 represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group or is absent when R_6 represents a group -CH= as hereinafter described;

R_{73} represents a hydrogen atom or an optional substituent or is absent when R_6 represents a methylene group or a group -CH= as hereinafter described;

Y represents an optional substituent;

n represents 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or an optionally substituted alkyl group;

R_{74} represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group;

R_7 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R_{75} represents an optionally substituted alkyl group or -Q'-C(O)X, wherein Q' is an optionally substituted $-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH=CH-$, $-CH_2C\equiv C-$ or phenylene, X is $-OR_8$, $-SR_8$, or $-NR_9R_{10}$, and R_8, R_9 and R_{10} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl group; and

i) R_6 and R_{71} independently represent a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl or acyl group; and R_{72} represents a hydrogen atom; or

ii) R_{71} represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally susbtituted alkyl or acyl group and R_{72} represents a hydrogen atom or R_{71} and R_{72} are joined together such that a double bond is formed between the carbon atoms to which they are attached; and

R_6 represents an optionally substituted methylene group bonded to the indole moiety thereby forming a tricyclic moiety; or

R_6 represents an optionally substituted group -CH= bonded to the indole moiety thereby to form an aromatic tricyclic moiety, but excluding a single compound of general formula I where R_1 represents methyl, R_2 represents a hydrogen, R_{70} represents methyl, R_{71} represents methyl, R_{73} represents hydrogen, n represents 0, R_3 represents t-butyl, R_{74} represents hydrogen, R_6 represents methyl, R_7 represents methyl, R_{72} represents hydrogen and R_{75} represents $-CH(CH(CH_3)_2)CH.CCH_3.COOH$, wherein

R_1, R_6, R_{70} and R_{71} are methyl;

R_2, R_{72}, R_{73} and R_{74} are hydrogen;

R_3 is t-butyl;

R_{75} is -CH(CH(CH_3)$_2$)C(H)=C CH_3)COOH; and

n is 0.

7. The method of claim 6 with the proviso that when:

R_6, R_7, R_{70} and R_{71} are methyl;

R_2, R_{72}, R_{73} and R_{74} are hydrogen;

R_3 is t-butyl;

R_{75} is -CH(CH(CH_3)$_2$)C(H)=C(CH_3)COOH; and

n is 0, R_1 is not methyl.